

WEEKLY REPORT
Region 9
Environmental Protection Agency
Week of January 20, 2017
Office of Regional Counsel

Highlight of Past Week

Significant Items for Next Week

Press Stories, Significant Policy, Regulatory, or Legal Actions (2-3 weeks out)

Freeport Consent Decree Lodged in District Court of Arizona

On January 17, 2017, the U.S. Department of Justice filed a complaint against and lodged a CERCLA Consent Decree with Cyprus Amax Minerals Company and Western Nuclear, Inc. (both wholly-owned subsidiaries of Freeport-McMoran, Inc.) for investigation and cleanup of 94 abandoned uranium mines on the Navajo Nation. The settlement is worth approximately \$600 million and also settles claims by EPA and the Navajo Nation against several settling federal agencies, including the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior. Contact: Sarah Mueller, ORC, 415-972-3953.

Best Value Home Improvements TSCA Lead RRP Settlement

On January 6, 2017, Region 9 settled an administrative penalty action against Best Value Home Improvements for violating the lead renovation, repair and painting rule of the Toxic Substances Control Act, in connection with its renovation of four homes in northern California in 2013-2014. Specifically, Respondent failed to: (1) obtain initial certification from EPA to perform renovations; (2) obtain from homeowners written acknowledgments that the owners had received the required lead renovation pamphlets or maintain certificates of mailing of such pamphlets prior to the renovations; (3) ensure that a certified renovator was assigned to the projects; and (4) maintain required records. Region 9 and Respondent settled this matter for a civil penalty of \$38,990 plus interest under the installment payment plan approved in consideration of Respondent's ability to pay. Contact: David Kim, ORC, 415-972-3882.

Grant Announcements

Legislative Engagement

Travel, Training, Public/National Meetings, and Speaking Engagements

30-60 Day Outlook

Other Information

Regional Counsel Travel - Internal Personnel (b) (2)

Internal to Region 9

Confidential Information